



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

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## **Dominican Republic**

### **Sugar**

### **Semi-Annual**

### **2002**

Approved by:

**David Salmon**

**U.S. Embassy, Santo Domingo**

Prepared by:

Carlos G. Suarez

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**Sugar production for 2002 fell below previous estimates, which will result in higher levels of refined and raw sugar imports. Government officials say imports could reach 60,000 metric tons.**

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Includes PSD changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Semi-Annual Report  
Santo Domingo [DR1], DR

## **Executive Summary**

The 2002 harvest has essentially ended, with just two small mills in the northern region processing a small remaining quantity of raw sugar. The prolonged dry period last year hindered cane development and reduced production. Total sugar cane processed and overall yield were less than anticipated and, as a result, total sugar output was lower. Sugar content was also affected negatively by heavy rains during May 2002. In addition, three mills that were recently privatized encountered technical and financial problems and did not reach their annual production estimates. Production numbers for these mills were not available until the end of the harvest, when the shortfall was impossible to maintain secret. As a result, our production estimate has been adjusted downward. We expect production levels in 2003 to recover by 4 to 5 percent or 20,000 metric tons, with the assumption of more normal weather patterns.

Consumption of raw and refined sugar continues to grow steadily at about two percent a year. Refined sugar production during the 2002 marketing year (November-October) was slightly higher than last year, although one of the producing mills failed to supply additional quantities of refined sugar, as expected. The failure to do so made it necessary for the government to authorize an increase in refined sugar imports for the year. In addition to the refined sugar shortfall, additional quantities of raw sugar are needed. A total of 18,000 MTRV (metric tons raw value) are expected to arrive from Brazil before the next harvest begins in December-January. Government officials say that total imports could be as much as 60,000 metric tons for the year.

As the end of the U.S. sugar quota for 2001-2002 approaches, the Dominican Republic's share of the quota has been filled completely, with just over 185,000 MTRV exported to the United States. The new quota for 2002-2003 has already been announced and remains unchanged at 185,233 MTRV.

## Statistical Data

PSD Table						
Country	Dominican Republic					
Commodity	Centrifugal Sugar				(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2001	Preliminary	2002	Forecast	2003
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		11/2000		11/2001		11/2002
Beginning Stocks	26	26	27	27	28	29
Beet Sugar Production	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cane Sugar Production	470	470	478	460	480	480
TOTAL Sugar Production	470	470	478	460	480	480
Raw Imports	0	0	0	18	0	0
Refined Imp.(Raw Val)	26	26	20	26	15	26
TOTAL Imports	26	26	20	44	15	26
TOTAL SUPPLY	522	522	525	531	523	535
Raw Exports	183	183	183	183	183	183
Refined Exp.(Raw Val)	2	2	2	2	2	2
TOTAL EXPORTS	185	185	185	185	185	185
Human Dom. Consumption	310	310	312	317	312	322
Feed Dom. Consumption	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	310	310	312	317	312	322
Ending Stocks	27	27	28	29	26	28
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	522	522	525	531	523	535

PSD Table						
Country	Dominican Republic					
Commodity	Sugar Cane for Centrifugal				(1000 HA)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	2001	Preliminary	2002	Forecast	2003
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		11/2000		11/2001		11/2002
Area Planted	235	239	245	250	0	250
Area Harvested	235	239	225	235	0	245
Production	5065	5152	5100	5100	0	5200
TOTAL SUPPLY	5065	5152	5100	5100	0	5200
Utilization for Sugar	5065	5152	5100	5100	0	5200
Utilizatn for Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL UTILIZATION	5065	5152	5100	5100	0	5200